

Town Information:

Municipal Campus:
476 Maple Street
Big Flats

Town Hall:
Monday-Friday
8am to 4pm
562-8443

**Community
Center:**
Monday-Friday
8am to 9pm

**Community
Center Office:**
Monday-Friday
8am to 4pm
562-8443, ext.303

Town Court:
Monday- Friday
8:30am-3:30pm
562-8443,ext.233

December 2016

The New Big Flats Times



Town of Big Flats ~ 1st Annual Winter Festival

Saturday, December 17, 2016

4:00 - 8:00 pm



Town Municipal Campus - Outside

- Entertainment
- Local Vendors ~ Holiday shopping
- Visit with Santa ~ Bring a camera
- Food Vendors
- Beer & Wine Tent
- Big Flats Fire Department

Community Center - Inside

- Chili & Chocolate 'Cook - Off'
- Music : Marc Chevalier & Dean Goble
- Crafts - Kids 10 & under ~ 4 - 6 pm
- Cake / Pie / Holiday Cookie Wheel
- Gingerbread House Contest
- Gift Wrapping
- Holiday Cookies & Cocoa

Town of Big Flats Community Center
& Municipal Campus
476 Maple Street, Big Flats, NY 14814
607 562-8443

Big Flats Town Board:

- Supervisor Edward Fairbrother
- Council Lee Giammichele
- Council Andy Gillette
- Council Bob Adams
- Council Mike Saglibene
- Town Clerk Linda Cross
- Meetings:

2nd Wednesday
at 4:30pm

4th Wednesday
at 7:00pm



Congratulations to the 2015 Citizen of the Year

Pamela Farr

Pam has had her hands in many pots over her time in Big Flats. As her daughter Samara says "When I think about "heroes" someone less flashy comes to mind, someone loyal and dedicated with an undying love of perpetuating Big Flats, NY town history". Many others agree that Pam is very deserving of this award. She was instrumental in bringing the Big Flats Historical Society to what it is today. She has served as many roles for the Society. Pam wrote and published a book entitled "150 Years Big Flats, New York, 1822-1972 Sesquicentennial Edition" in 1972. For over 30 years she coordinated the annual Big Flats Antique Show, which she was honored for and received a plaque for collecting enough donations to purchase the building where the Historical Society is today. You will see Pam working at the pancake breakfasts and at the monthly dinners. A fellow volunteer says "Pam is the glue that holds the Big Flats Historical Society together." If you see Pam tell her congratulations!



The Big Flats Business Association

8th Annual "Christmas in Big Flats"

Saturday, December 10th

Businesses in Big Flats will celebrate the Christmas season
with town-wide open houses and refreshments.

The following businesses will be participating:

Amish Workshop 9am-5pm	Antique Revival 10am-5pm	Ken's Service Center
Cottage Gift Shop 10am-5pm	Oldies But Goodies 9:30am-5:30pm	
Ted's Produce & Flower Market 11am-6pm		
The Witch's Stitches 10am-5pm.		

Flyers will be available at each business.

Visit www.BigFlatsBusinessAssociation.com and
follow the "Christmas in Big Flats" link
or call [\(607\) 733-9063](tel:6077339063) for more information



From the Community Center

Private Parties Welcome

Having a birthday party, hosting a baby shower, or planning a holiday gathering? The Community Center is ready and available to meet your needs. Reservations available Mon-Fri 8am-9pm and Saturday by appointment. Call the Center office for more details. 607 562-8443 ext 303/ www.bigflatsny.gov

Activities

There are many activities to participate in and events to attend. Would you be interested in playing cards, are you crafty or want to learn to be, looking for exercise programs to join, or learn to cook Italian style? Want to socialize and have a meal? Do your kids like to play games? Well the Big Flats Community Center has it all! Check out the monthly activity flyer on the website for details. Looking for a new program and have ideas to share? The Center staff will be happy to help you set up a new activity to share with residents!

Holiday Harvest

FOOD DRIVE

Donations to benefit the
Big Flats Food Pantry

Non-perishable food and personal
toiletry items accepted. "Building a better
COMMUNITY



Upcoming Events

~ The Big Flats Lions club sponsors a Blood Drive with the American Red Cross approximately every 56 days. Please consider becoming a donor. Call the office for a list of upcoming dates.

~ AARP Driver safety classes offered at the Community Center. Most insurance companies will give a discount on the cost of your policy. Contact your agent for specific details and the monthly flyer for scheduled dates.

~ Annual **FOOD DRIVE** to benefit the Big Flats Food Pantry. Donations of canned foods and toiletries accepted in the foyer October 26th through December 30th.

~ 1st Annual Winter Festival on Saturday, December 17th, 4pm- 8pm

Donations

Donations are always welcomed! Check with your employer for details on donating through the United Way campaign. Remember to specify your donation be sent to the Town of Big Flats Community Center.



KNIT 'N KNOT

The Knit 'n Knot group meets at the Community Center every Monday and Friday from 9-noon. The group would like to invite you to stop by with your own project or to help out with the many projects they do for charitable organizations. This group has made hats, afghans and more to help others out. Their most recent is the afghan pictured to the left. This was made and donated to the American Red Cross. If your not a "crafter" stop by and socialize, maybe these ladies can teach you some of their special skills.

Thank You to all of Our Business Sponsors

STANS
NO TUBES

THE FIRST NAME IN TUBELESS

Custom Bicycle Wheels, Tubeless Sealant & Accessories

202 Daniel Zenker Drive Phone: (607) 562-2877
Big Flats, NY 14814 Fax: (607) 562-2879

www.notubes.com

BC Plumbing Heating Electric ASH

562-2023

24 Hour
Emergency Service

Commercial / Residential

Brad Clark
Fax: 562-2023
brad@bcplumbing.com

I made myself a snowball,
As perfect as could be,
I thought I'd keep it as a pet,
And let it sleep with me.
I made it some pajamas,
And a pillow for its head,
Then last night it ran away.
But first-- it wet the bed.



Ken's Service Center

Full Service Fuel and Auto Repair
Touch Free Laser Wash and Doggie Wash



100 Canal Street
Big Flats, NY 14814
607.562.3921

KEN'S TOUCH-FREE
LASERWASH
+ DOGGIE WASH

TECHLINE
COMMUNICATIONS

Data/Voice/Fiber Infrastructure
Digital Hybrid IP Systems
VOIP Phone System Solutions/ IP Phones
SIP Trunk Service
IP Phone Cloud Services
Hospitality Phone System Solutions Overhead Paging

607-562-3366



email: antique@antiquerivival.com
toll free 1.800.700.7330

WALTER J. KENT
FUNERAL HOME

"Two generations serving our community"

(607) 734-5368

www.walterjkent.com
858 LAKE STREET, ELMIRA, NY 14901

TYLER E. KENT
LICENSED
PROFESSIONAL
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

WALTER J. KENT
LICENSED
PROFESSIONAL
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

H&R BLOCK

Clay Bullers
Franchisee

407 S Franklin St
Wadkins Glen, NY 14891
Tel 607.535.4581
Fax 607.535.6230
cbullers@hrblock.com

special event network
finger lakes weddings & events

**26th Finger Lakes
Platinum Bridal Expo**

Sunday, February 19
Radisson Hotel Corning

Area's Largest Bridal Expo
Info: senBridalShows.com

Fagan Engineers

113 East Chemung Place
Elmira, NY 14904

(607)734-2165



3069 New York 352 Big Flats, NY 14814
(607)562-8898

www.willowcreekgolfclub.com

Bank Anywhere, Anytime

WITH **Chemung Canal
Trust Company**

chemungcanal.com | 800.836.3711



NRI
HANDY MAN

607-734-4277

NRIHandyman@newcomerremodeling.com
A Division of Newcomer Remodeling, Inc.

Cottage Gift Shop



2445 State Route 352
Elmira, NY 14903
(607) 733-9063
Mon - Sat 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
www.Cottage-Gift-Shop.com

Country Furniture, Corning Wax Works Candles,
Jim Shore and Williraye Studio Collectibles,
Locally-made Quilts and Tabletoppers, Dolls, Pillows,
Billy Jacobs Canvas Prints, Local Gourmet Food Items

ENGINEERS
ARCHITECTS



LAND SURVEYORS 100
Hunt Center, Horseheads, NY 14845
(607)358-1000

WRENS AUTO CENTER

17 Winters Road
Big Flats, NY

Mon. - Fri.
8:30 - 5:30

CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT
(607)562-8088



NYS Inspections
Oil Changes
Major and Minor
Repairs
Diagnostics
Brakes
Tune-ups
shocks
struts



Big Flats
American Legion
POST 1612
(607)562-3491



Big Flats Community Days

The committee for Community Days is looking for volunteers to be part of the planning process for the annual event. They are looking to fill some positions that may become vacant or just hear your ideas. The meetings are held at the Big Flats American Legion at 6:30 pm usually once a month from October to March then twice a month for April and May. The event takes place in June. Community Days is committed to raising funds to beautify Big Flats. Feel free to contact Mark Gould at (607)562-7066 or Tammy Stein at (607)962-2499 if you are interested in learning more. The next planned Meeting is December 6th. Feel free to sit in on a meeting to see if you'd like to be a part of the planning committee.

Property Tax Information

For your convenience you can now see your Tax information on the Town's website at www.bigflatsny.gov

On the front page under Quick Links click Town and County Tax Bills. You can search by using last name, property address, or tax map number for the years 2008 - present.

Contact your Tax Collector's Office if you do not receive your Tax bill by the 2nd week in January at (607)562-8443 ext. 203

For any exemption questions or to change information on your bill call (607)739-0873 to speak with Becky or Melanie in the assessor's office.

From the Town Supervisor

2016 is fast coming to a close and I want to thank all the TEAM here at the Town of Big Flats and the Town Board for the hard work they have put forth during these last three years. With the reduction of \$750,000 in sales tax revenue and the loss of Empire Zone rebates, severe cuts have had to be made in all departments. We have been busy with applying for grants and foundations for funding to help with security and youth programs. Even with these cuts, all programs continue; an aggressive road maintenance program, several drainage projects and services to the citizens of Big Flats continue fully funded.

I want to thank some people in the Town of Big Flats that are helping to make this a great place to live. First is Kevin Kole who held concerts in the Community Park during the month of August with food being served by the Big Flats Lions Club and the Golden Glow Volunteer Fire Company. Kevin, thank you for a great job and I am looking forward to summer 2017 concerts. Andy Avery and I met with Keith Reynolds who is restoring the broken stones at the Pioneer Cemetery on Kahler Road; Keith, thank you. If you or your family would like to take on a project in the town to help make Big Flats a great place to live, call 562-8443 ext. 204 or 224.

This year we celebrated two citizens of the year. For 2015, I want to recognize Pam Farr for the Citizen of the Year with all the hours she has given to the town in community service, most notably with the Big Flats Historical Society. The 2016 Citizen of the year was Denny Hill. Denny has always given back to non-for-profit groups in the town, both in sponsorships and for fundraisers; Denny, thank you for making Big Flats a great place to live and also to eat.

December is the month when most of us will celebrate our religious beliefs with our family and loved ones. From all of us at the Town of Big Flats we want to thank you for all that you have done to make Big Flats a great place to live, play and work in. We also want to wish Happy Holidays to you and your family and a Happy New Year. During this time, please stop to thank the First Responders, Law Enforcement Officers, and our Armed Forces personnel that keep us safe and protect our freedom every day of our lives.

Department of Public Works

Snow and Ice Safety – Big Flats NY

The Public Works Department works as quickly as possible during inclement weather to assure the safety and clearance of all town roads for the use of emergency vehicles, residents, and visitors. Your patience, cooperation, and understanding will help our crews clear the roads faster and more safely.

Plowing the Roads

Public Works crews work long hours when plowing, sometimes around the clock, often reporting to work at 3:00am and working until 11:00pm or later. The Town crews utilize 4 large trucks with front plow and wing, a smaller truck with front plow and wing, and 3 pickup trucks with a plow during snow removal operations. We also maintain 1 spare large truck with a front plow and wing for use during equipment breakdowns. A team of more than 14 Town employees coordinate plowing to ensure that bridges, roadways, hills, and highways are cleared in the most efficient manner possible. Big Flats also coordinates work with adjacent Towns and Chemung County.

Snow removal operations are coordinated from the DPW, located adjacent to Town Hall on Maple Street. Snow plows make multiple passes up and down each road to move as much snow to the side of the road as possible. With over 75 miles of roads to plow with 2 or more passes, this can take some time, especially if the primary routes need to be frequently re-plowed.

When you are driving during snow removal operations, please be patient and give snow plows a wide berth. You should **NEVER** pass a snow plow unless indicated by the operator. Snow plows have a limited visibility and must often make sudden moves to avoid parked cars and other roadside obstacles.

Shoveling Your Driveway and Sidewalks

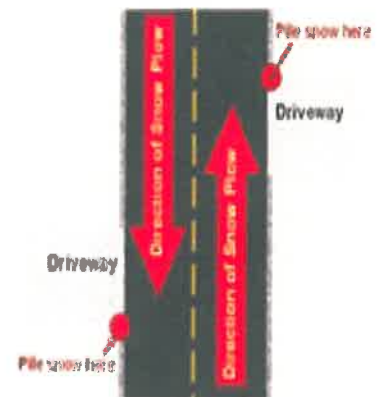
If it is possible, wait to shovel out your driveway until after the snow plows pass through your road. Don't shovel your driveway out as soon as a plow passes by - wait 10 to 15 minutes in the event the plow makes a second pass. If you cannot wait, shovel the entrance to your driveway last. If you shovel it first and a plow passes by while you shovel the rest, the snow that the plow is pushing will empty into the opening you just created.

Another important tip to make shoveling your driveway easier is to pile the snow on the opposite side of the snow plow's approach. On a typical road, this would be the right side of your driveway as you face the roadway. This way, when the plow passes by, less snow will be pushed back into your driveway (see diagram at right).

It is a public hazard and against New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law to shovel snow into or across the road. This creates a slushy mix on the side of the road that the snow plows may not be able to reach due to parked cars or other roadside obstacles. If you use a snow blower, point the blower discharge away from the road. Law Enforcement and Code Enforcement can cite residents for shoveling or blowing snow into the road. If you hire a contractor to plow your driveway or shovel your walk, please ensure they do not plow or shovel snow into the road. When shoveling, snow blowing or plowing, you cannot block visibility at a road corner or block pedestrian access to the sidewalk.

Per the State property maintenance building code, homeowners are responsible for clearing snow and ice from the sidewalk in front of their property. It is also the homeowner's responsibility to shovel out fire hydrants on or near their property. If a fire were to break out, the Fire Department would lose valuable time attempting to locate and dig out a buried fire hydrant.

The Department of Public Works clears sidewalks or paved paths on all Town-owned properties and parks.

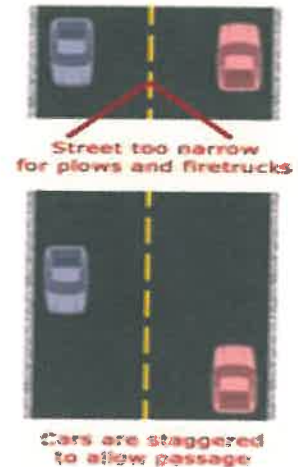


Continue on page 7

Parking Your Car

If you have a driveway, please use it to keep the roads as clear of obstacles as possible. When parking your car on the road during a snowstorm or prior to a forecasted snowstorm, park as close to the curb or shoulder as possible. If possible, park so that another car is not directly across from you (see diagram at right). It is very difficult for snow plows to maneuver on roads with cars that are parked 2 feet from the curb or shoulder. If the snow plow cannot fit down the road, then the roadway will not be cleaned in a timely manner. If parked cars are not staggered, the wide snow plows may not be able to fit through the narrowed roadway; the road will not be plowed. This is also a serious safety concern as the Fire Department would not be able to pass through the narrowed roadway.

If you park your car on the road, it is also a good idea to clean it off. In cases of large snowfall, small cars can be buried quickly and look like snow drifts. Coupled with poor visibility, plow operators could strike a car that has not been properly cleaned off. State law requires that all snow be removed from the hood, roof, and trunk areas of a motor vehicle before operation. This prevents snow from breaking loose and obscuring



Sanitation and Garbage Collection

Residents are asked to accommodate sanitation personnel by placing all garbage cans, recycle bins, and garbage bags in an area that can be reached from the road. Placing solid waste materials on or behind high snow banks can create trip and slip hazards for sanitation employees.

We'll Work with You

If you have questions or concerns regarding snow removal, conduct of snow plows, parking during a snowstorm, or problems with snow removal on your road or neighborhood, please contact us. We will work with you to determine the source of the problem and the most appropriate resolution. Call Public Works at (607) 562-8443 x224 or send an e-mail to dpw@bigflatsny.gov.

As always, we wish you a safe and happy holiday season!

The Big Flats Women's Club

The Big Flats Women's Club met on September 20th to welcome members, old and new. Mrs. Deborah Kuehner informed us of The Potter's Hands Foundation that is committed to provide a safe environment for victims of sexual exploitation. We, as a club felt that the local organization is certainly a worthy cause.

On December 6th, at 6 pm we will share a pot luck supper with holiday entertainment at the Big Flats Community Center. Please join us and help plan our fund raising events for 2017. Bring an unwrapped holiday children's book or game to the meeting for children with needs. In addition please bring a dish to pass for the meal. Thanks to several of our members, the meat will be provided. I look forward to seeing you.

Ann Hayes
562-8523

Golden Glow Fire Company has a food bank at their location
the 2nd Tuesday of every month from 5-6. This is open to all
residents

Golden Glow Volunteer Fire Company,
214 Hendy Creek Road, NY (607) 734-4474



From the Code Department

The town continues to utilize it's carefully structured comprehensive plan in a way which:

Preserves and enhances it's existing rural character while accommodating a balanced mix of recreational, residential, commercial and industrial uses.

Encourages future development that is of quality design that will foster the character of the Town, and meet the necessary long-term needs of the community.

Encourages future development that minimizes negative impacts on natural resources, infrastructure, and neighboring uses in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the community. Both residential and commercial development continue to remain steady, which is a good indication that the local

economy remain reasonably healthy. An important part of this development involves protecting its citizens as well as existing and future developed properties from flooding. The Town of Big Flats participates in a program (CRS) which allows the community to receive reduced flood insurance rates. This program requires the town to regulate all floodplain development and provide educational resources for the community. The town of Big Flats website www.bigflatsny.gov provides links and information for residents. Also, as an annual outreach requirement, please review the flooding information

In an effort to assure that residents of the Town of Big Flats are able to purchase Flood Insurance at a reasonable rate, this office offers Floodplain information to Town residents, legal firms, financial institutions and real estate agencies.

The services provided include :

- Flood map determination
- Flood Insurance rate maps and Geographic Information System mapping
- Flood Insurance information
- Repairing flood damaged buildings
- Retrofitting of flood prone structures
- Floodplain development permit process
- Elevation Certificates

We have the latest Flood Insurance, floodplain development and flood proofing information available at the Town Hall and at the Big Flats Branch of the Steele Memorial Library. The Town of Big Flats also maintains a Flood Warning system, through the Environmental Emergency Management Services.

If you require any of these services or have any questions in regard to Floodplain Development or Flood Insurance, please do not hesitate to contact this office (607)562-8443 ext. 205

When you enter the Town Hall lobby you will see a box for donations. Southern Tier Dog Control which is the dog control agency that is used by the Town of Big Flats is asking for donations of dog food, toys, new or gently used towels, plus anything else you can spare that would be useful.



New Online Feature for the Water Department

Wondering if you paid your bill? Did you lose your bill? Need billing information for tax purposes? Now you can look up your water account online! Go to the Water Department page of the Town's website and sign up through the web portal. You can also pay your bill online using a debit/credit card.

The payment feature carries a small cost but to register your account is free!

Flood Warnings: Depending on the location and storm characteristics, the warning time for a flood can range from no warning for flash flooding or small streams, to several hours for riverine flooding. There may be additional warning time for flooding of the Finger Lakes.

April 1993: A March blizzard dumped 2.5+ feet of snow across the So. Tier and most of the N.E. Tier. Shortly after caused extensive flooding, some high levels lasting more than one week. 67.5 homes and 40 businesses in Schuyler County were damaged.

July 1935: A severe storm developed quickly affecting 10 counties in So. Tier and Cent. NY. More than 40 deaths were recorded, refuge camps were everywhere.

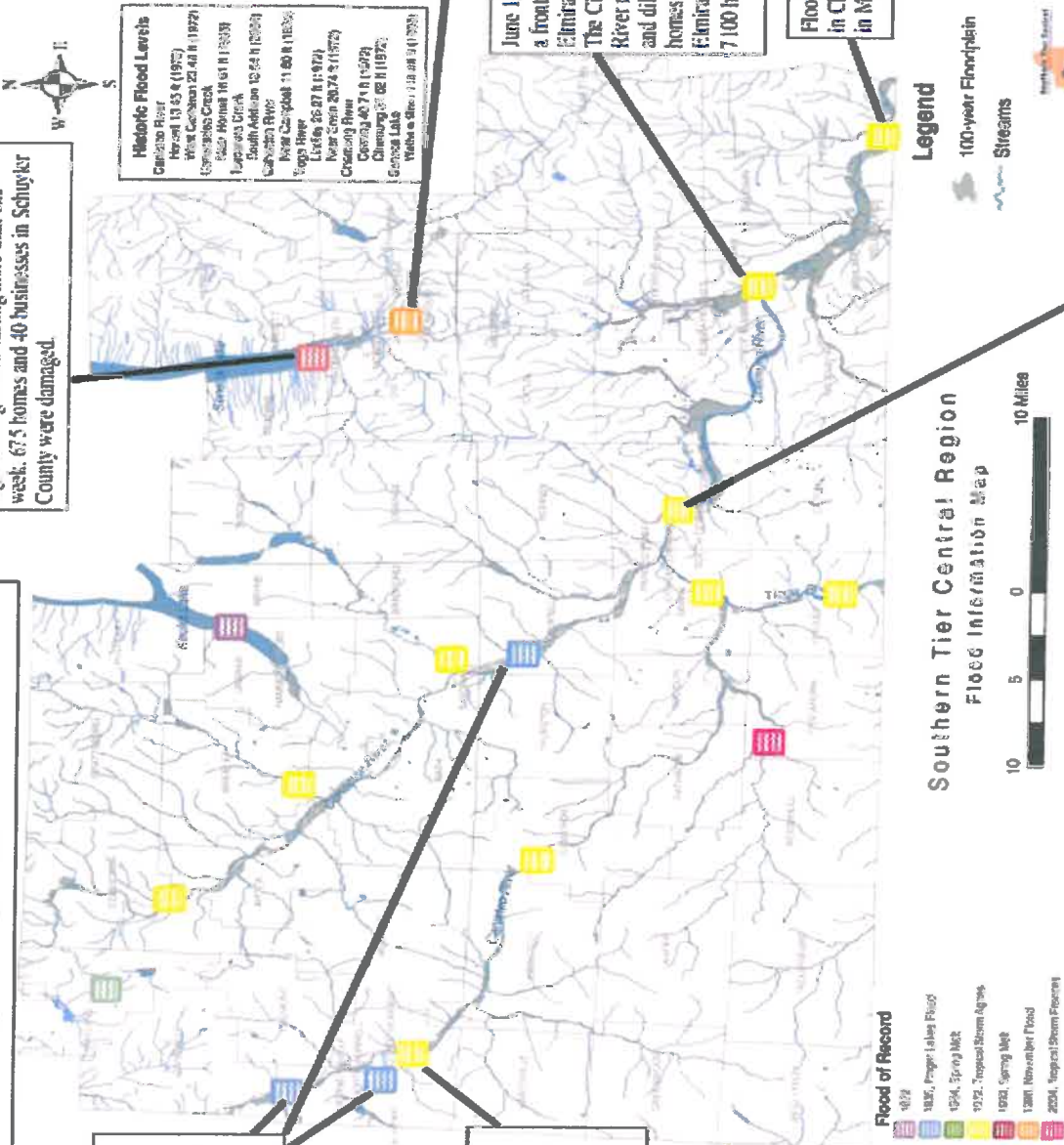
June 1972: Agnes dropped about 11" of rain in Hornell. Flood waters damaged homes and businesses, displacing families for weeks and even months.

November 1996: Heavy rain associated with a late fall storm caused high water across the So. Tier. Many urban problems were caused by autumn leaves clogging ditches and storm sewers.

June 1972: Trop. Storm Agnes combined with a frontal system stalling over the So. Tier. Elmira received about 8" of rain in four days. The City was split in half when the Chemung River rose so high it overtopped flood walls and dikes, washed out bridges, and swept homes and vehicles down river. In all, 15,000 Elmira residents were driven from their homes and 7,100 homes were affected by flood waters.

Flood waters from Agnes registered 7" higher in Chemung than in the former flood of record in May 1946.

June 1972: About 10" of rain fell in the Coming - Painted Post area during Trop. Storm Agnes. 23 lives were lost due to the flood waters that ripped through the area causing buildings to collapse under the strain of the heavy flow. Painted Post had 30" of water.



**Southern Tier Central Region
Flood Information Map**

From the Water Department

The Big Flats Water Department is happy to inform everyone that we have completed the construction of our new interconnect booster station with the Elmira Water Board. The interconnect was approved by the Chemung County Health Department on September 27, 2016 and put into service by the Town. This interconnect not only is an emergency source of water for The Town of Big Flats but also helps the Elmira Water Board and the Town with maintenance procedures during the summer months. The Elmira Water Board will give the Town up to 115,000 gallons of water a day at no charge during this time. This means our current well pumps and chlorination equipment do not have to supply that water which in return helps us save on maintenance costs. This is a win-win for both water departments. The total construction cost for the project was \$434,000.00. So far the Town has been awarded two grants totaling \$280,000.00. The Town is also applying for shared service funding for the remaining balance.



Now that fall is upon us we want to remind everyone to check and winterize your home. Here are a couple things to look for.

- 1) Make sure your garden hose is unhooked from the spigot to prevent freezing.
- 2) Check any electrical heat tape to make sure that it is plugged in and in good operating condition (no cracks or broken plug ends).
- 3) Check to make sure that all cellar doors are closed and sealed up from the outside air.
- 4) Be sure that insulation is installed.
- 5) If you are a resident that likes to travel south for the winter please consider keeping your heat on in your home, 55 degrees or above, and turning the water off at the meter within your home, this will help prevent you from any unseen water issues within your home while you are out of town.

If you have any questions about winterizing your home please feel free to contact the Water Department at 562-8443 x227.

The Library Advocates

The Big Flats Library Advocates have had a great few months. We hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the Reading Garden. About thirty five people attended and a light lunch was served. All the furniture in the pavilion was donated and the Advocates are planning the next phase that will begin in 2017.

The Southern Tier Library System presented an award to the Advocates at their annual meeting. It was given for "extraordinary contributions to the development, improvement and expansion of library service at the Big Flats Library". Eight Advocates attended and accepted the award.

We are always looking for new members. If a Big Flats resident would like to join, either as an active member or just a supporting member, send \$10 (or more) to:

Big Flats Library Advocates
PO Box 352
Big Flats, NY 14814

Help us keep the library a place of learning and joy.

Lee Hanle Younge
President



From the Historical Society - Sylvia Mattoon Radford
MUSEUM LOCATION - 258 HIBBARD ROAD, BIG FLATS



First, we would like to thank all of you who attended our pancake breakfasts during the summer months. You made them a huge success. Second, the BFHS is looking for colored photographs of identifiable Big Flats scenery for use in one of our upcoming yearly calendars or for an exhibit. Think of the fields, woods, creeks, river or a rainbow, snow, fall leaves and wonderful spring. We are interested in photos taken in all seasons. Your name will be on the photo as well as the area of the scene. There must be many of you out there who take wonderful pictures. So get out those cameras. Please bring them by the museum on Tuesday mornings or submit them by email titled BF Photos to: annburthayes73@gmail.com

HISTORY

Founded in 1886 by Charles A., Harry H., Calvin G., and Daniel C. Hungerford, the Standard Manufacturing Company had, in its existence, manufactured many different products. It developed and produced in large volume one of the country's first lines of all steel wheelbarrows which were sold throughout the United States. This original line of products gradually expanded to include concrete buggies, batch wagons, coal mine cars, steamer buckets and other steel conveyances. In 1928 the company developed and put on the market a new type of airplane hangar door, which was selected for a large percentage of the hangars built in the eastern part of the United States between 1928 and 1930. Since its founding, the company has been a local source of supply for steel tanks, bins, fire escapes, furnace breechings and many other products made from steel sheet, plate and structural shapes and assembled by riveting, oxy-acetylene electric arc or electric resistance welding.

In 1944 it completed moving its manufacturing activities and offices from its former plant near Post Creek close to the Corning City line to Main Street, Big Flats because it was unable to find an existing available building in Corning. The name was changed to Hungerford Corporation. The Welles Tobacco Warehouse on Main Street was finally selected as suitable and rehabilitation was started. All during World War II the company's activities were devoted one hundred percent to War work, which it turned out in ever increasing volume.

In the thick of a heavy schedule of war contracts, the Hungerford Corp. soon began a large addition on the south end of its properties to provide for post war expansion. The company completed the manufacture, for the Navy, four ship sets of special accommodation ladders for destroyer ships. Fabricated from steel plate, the 33 foot ships' stairways were assembled by welding at Big Flats and tested by Navy inspectors before being sent to Pittsburg for galvanizing and then sent on the West Coast shipyard. Today the company has closed its doors and the building sold.



THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS FOR THEIR SUPPORT

SPONSORS

Thomas Reilly & Elisabeth Corveleyn
Pamela Farr
Ronald & Susan Potrzebowski
Ed & Mary Lee Fairbrother
Bob & Debbie Adams
Vicie A. Rolling
Ann Hayes
Joyce & Bill Losey

Vibhuti Shah
Gene Herber
MaryAnn Sweely
Gary & Ann Brouse
Lee & Dennis Younge
Barbara Gilbert
Dick Habeck
Big Flats Women's Club



Flash Flooding Safety Tips

If you live near a stream, in a low lying area, or even in an urban area, you could be affected by flash flooding. During heavy rain, stream levels can rise rapidly and overflow banks, roadside ditches can overflow, low lying areas can quickly fill up, and storm water sewers can back up because there is just too much water for drains to handle. In winter, the threat of flooding is not gone. A winter warm up with even a moderate rain event can cause rapid snow melt resulting in flooding. Ice jams can quickly back up water in streams and rivers causing flooding.

•Never walk or drive through standing or running water. Even six inches of water can knock a person off their feet. Just two feet of water can float a car. Drowning is the number one cause of death in floods.

•Do not drive around barricades. Remember roads, culverts and bridges can be undercut making them unsafe for travel.

•Stay away from downed power lines. Electrocution is the second most common reason for death in a flood. Electricity travels readily through water.

•Have the local utility turn off gas and electricity to your home. Don't have service restored until all appliances and systems have been inspected and cleaned by a qualified person.

•Remember that some appliances, such as televisions, can hold a charge even after being unplugged.

Be alert for gas leaks. Don't smoke, use candles or lanterns, and do not light an open flame unless you're certain natural gas is not present.

•Be aware of carbon monoxide hazards, an odorless, colorless gas that can cause asphyxiation. Carbon monoxide is formed when fossil fuels are burned, including kerosene, propane and charcoal. Do not use gas or charcoal grills indoors for heating or cooking, and crack windows when using alternative heating sources to allow fresh air into your home and carbon monoxide to escape.

• Be ready to evacuate when told to do so. Pack medications, baby supplies, food and water, and any other needed specialty items to take with you.

• Remember that unless otherwise specified, shelters do not allow pets to be brought inside. Make arrangements for the care of pets in advance of an emergency.

• Follow the designated emergency routes during an evacuation. Other routes may be for emergency traffic only, or could be congested, flooded or damaged.

FLOODING AND EMERGENCIES...

If you live in or near a 100 Year Floodplain, you have a 25% chance of being flooded once every 30 years. Flooding from small streams, roadside ditches, ponds, and lakes have caused widespread damage to homes and properties in our tri-county area.

In the last 150 years, rivers and streams have inundated various communities from Hornell to Wellsburg on an average of once every 4 1/2 years.

Find out your flood hazard by looking at Flood Maps (FIRMs) at local government offices. Call your jurisdiction to find out where.

ALL development in a floodplain, not just building construction, requires local permits.

It is a violation to dump debris, including yard wastes, into a creek, stream or river and it should always be reported to your municipality.

A building in the floodplain that sustains substantial damage or is substantially improved must be brought into compliance with current standards.

The floodplain provides a green space for protection of streams from development and the forces of erosion.



Never ride bicycles, ATVs or motorcycles on flood control dikes as the grass that is ruined actually helps to hold the dike together in high water events.

Area wetlands can help improve water quality by filtering out impurities and nutrients from runoff.

Homeowner Insurance policies do not cover damage to your home from flooding.

Residents in Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler Counties can obtain Flood Insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) to cover flood damages to your home and its contents.

Without Flood Insurance, many residents have lost their homes and belongings due to flooding, and have never recovered financially.

Insurance through NFIP can also be purchased by renters to insure their personal belongings.

There's a 30 day waiting period for coverage to begin. Find out about NFIP today, don't wait until the next flood to find out your home is not covered.

Many municipalities in our tri-county area participate in the Community Rating System which can lower the price of flood insurance for the residents, making it even more affordable!

Our Local EAS Radio and TV Stations are:

WENY-FM, WKPQ-FM,
WNKI-FM, WFLR-AM/FM ,
WENY-TV, WETM-TV

Residents of Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler Counties are fortunate to have the Flood Warning Service (FWS) working for them. Environmental Emergency Services, Inc. (EES) is a non-profit organization, funded by the three Counties and the municipalities of the tri-county area. FWS is one of the funded projects of EES. Storm information gathered by precipitation and river gauges, the National Weather Service, and local observers are plotted on maps and entered into computer programs by volunteers of the FWS. Flooding predictions and forecasts are then relayed to the Emergency Management Offices for the three counties. Emergency Management officials are then able to give warnings through the Emergency Alert System (EAS), evacuate residents if necessary, and take precautionary steps to save lives and limit property damage. Vehicles with PA systems may also be used to alert neighborhoods of an emergency. As a resident in or near a flood hazard area, it is important for you to heed all warnings, follow the directions given in emergency messages, and make sure you have a battery powered radio or NOAA Weather Radio to receive warnings as they are issued.

NOAA Weather Radios can be purchased in a wide variety of local electronics stores, home improvement centers, and department stores. It's one of the best investments you can make in your family's safety!

For more media information and to volunteer with FWS, please check out our website at: **www.highwater.org**

You can help to protect your home from flood damage several ways:

Raise your appliances and utilities above the flood level. Standpipes and pumps can also be installed to help prevent water from damaging your home. You can raise your entire house above the flood level.

- If flooding is not deep, you may be able to improve drainage to keep water away from your home.
- Install a water-tight seal to keep floodwater out of your well.
- Waterproof your walls and place watertight closures over the doorways. This method should be used on homes with basements or if water will not get over two feet deep.
- Emergency measures include sandbagging and moving furniture before water enters your home. Remember that sewers and drainage structures can also back up and be a cause of flooding.

Your local government offices can help with these and other retrofitting ideas, please call!

For more information on emergency planning, and local hazards, visit the following websites:

www.redcross.org

www.ready.gov

www.fema.gov

www.highwater.org

www.chemungcounty.com/floodsmart.org

www.schuylercounty.us

www.steubencony.org

Report all illegal flood plain development or dumping to your local code enforcement officer or municipal government office.

Chemung County Soil and Water Conservation:
607-739-2009

Schuyler County Soil and Water Conservation:
607-535-9650

Steuben County Soil and Water Conservation:
607-776-7398

Phone Numbers:

Chemung County
Emergency Management:
607-737-2096

Chemung County Planning
Dept. 607-737-5510

Schuyler County
Emergency Management:
607-535-8200

Schuyler County Planning
Dept. 607-535-7162

Steuben County Emergency
Management: 607-664-2700

Steuben County Planning
Dept. 607-664-2268

DEC Flood Control,
Horseheads: 607-739-0809



Youth Department

Visit the Youth Department's page on the Town's website for all upcoming activities for the Youth.

www.bigflatsny.gov

From the Assessor

All applications MUST be returned by March 1, 2017

Instructions to apply for the STAR Exemption in the Town of Horseheads/Town of Big Flats

You should apply for the **“Basic”** STAR exemption if you:

Own your property.

It is your primary residence.

Your income does not exceed \$500,000.

1. To apply, you must register with the York State Department of Taxation & Finance. You may do so by calling (518) 457-2036 or by visiting www.tax.ny.gov/star/

You should apply for the **“Enhanced” STAR exemption if you:**

Own your property (including life use).

It is your primary residence.

You are 65 years old by December 31, 2017.

You already have the BASIC Star on your property.

Your adjusted gross income is **\$86,000** or less.

To apply, fill out the application and you **MUST** provide **proof of age and residency of all owners and owner's spouses**

We will accept the following for proof of age and residency:

Copy of NYS Driver's License

NYS Non-Driver's ID

(The address on the License/ID must reflect the property being the primary residence.)

2. Attach a copy of your **2015 income.** We will accept:

Tax return 1st and 2nd page. (Federal or NYS) If you don't file, do not fill out the IVP Form, you must provide 1099's and/or W2's and **fill out the worksheet** provided by us stating you don't need to file income taxes.

3. IVP Option- (Optional Income Verification Program)

You must file a New York State income tax return to choose this option






New York State Department of Taxation and Finance can verify your income eligibility each year after initially submitting this form with your Enhanced STAR application

The Town of Big Flats Assessor's Office is located at the
Horseheads Town Hall at 150 Wygant Rd., Horseheads, NY 14845


The Office will be open Monday — Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
Call (607)739-0873 X27 for Becky, Assessor Aide or X16 for Melanie, Assessor
Or Email

bsmith@bigflatsny.gov or mvanney@bigflatsny.gov

December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Look for signs for the Pancake breakfast at the Presbyterian Church on the corner of Main st. and Church st.				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Christmas in Big Flats
11	12	13	14 Town Board Meeting 4:30	15	16	17 Winter Festival 4-8
18	19	20	21  Winter Begins	22	23 CLOSED	24 
25 Happy Holidays 	26 CLOSED	27 Town Board Meeting 4:30	28	29	30	31 

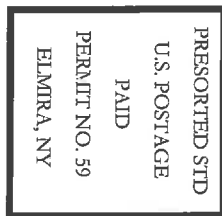
January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2 CLOSED	3	4 Organizational Meeting 4:30	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Town Board Meeting 4:30	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Town Board Meeting 7:00	26	27	28
29	30	31 Property Taxes due without penalty				

February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2  Groundhog Day	3	4
5	6	7	8 Town Board Meeting 4:30	9	10	11
12	13	14  Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 President's Day  CLOSED	21	22 Town Board Meeting 7:00	23	24	25
26	27	28				

The New Big Flats Times
476 Maple Street
Big Flats, NY 14814



The New Big Flats Times

Please recycle me after reading!



Visit us on the web at www.bigflatsny.gov



If your name has a * by it, I have received your survey so you DO NOT need to send another one. Thank you

Do to the increasing cost of the Newsletter we are conducting a survey and hope you will take time to mark one of the following: **PLEASE ONLY SEND IN ONE PER HOUSEHOLD**

- _____ - I would like to view the newsletter on the Town website at www.bigflatsny.gov
- _____ - I would like to have the newsletter emailed to me
- _____ - I would like to continue to have the newsletter mailed to me:
- _____ - I DO NOT want to receive the newsletter anymore

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____

Feel free to email
me your
preference at
tstein@bigflatsny.gov

Include your name and address

Please pick ONE choice and mail or drop off to Big Flats Town Hall

Attn: Newsletter

476 Maple St.

Big Flats, NY 14814